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# Cruisers *chronicle*

## OUR MISSION

TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES THROUGH SPORT AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

## Cruisers win Silver at Ontario Paralympic Winter Championships

"It was incredible!" **Ken Hall**, coach of our team in the first ever Ontario Paralympic Winter Championships, declared after the Cruisers took silver in an intense final. In a rematch of an earlier round robin game the Cruisers played Eastern Ontario to a very close game. With 90 seconds left in the game and the Cruisers down 2-1 Ken pulled goalie **Cameron Jenkins** for an extra attacker. Eastern Ontario scored but the tenacity of the Cruisers did not let up as they scored to reach within one goal again. Time eventually halted the Cruisers but the team was proud to win silver on the strength of goals by **Americo Morais** and **David Ali**, and assists from **Michael Careri**, **Karl Ludwig** and **Americo Morais**. Check local listings as Leafs TV traveled to Hunstville to tape the game.

On the way to the final the Cruisers played two round robin games winning the first 2-1 over a team comprised of players from London, St. Catharines, and Hamilton. **Karl Ludwig** had both goals, with assists from **Shayne Smith** and **Bret Wills** (2). The Cruisers lost the second game to Eastern Ontario, a team made up of players from Elmvale, Peterborough, Whitby and Kingston.

The Cruisers played a quarter final against a team comprised of players from Kitchener, Windsor, Hensel, Sarnia, and Stratford. The Cruisers rolled over them 6-2 eliminating them from the playoffs. Goal scorers

were **Gord Bollert**, **Karl Ludwig** (2), and **Americo Morais** (3). Assists from **Michael Careri**, **Bret Wills**, **David Ali**, **Shayne Smith** (2), and **Karl Ludwig** (3). The semi-final game was against Northern Ontario. They were filled with players from North Bay, Sudbury and Ottawa. "The best game I have seen to date" was the way Ken Hall described this game. The Cruisers were victorious 1-0 on a goal by **Karl Ludwig** set up by **Shayne Smith**. The team has never played better with the player of the game easily being **Cameron Jenkins**. He was unbeatable, frustrating Northern Ontario on a number of excellent scoring opportunities.

Congratulations to our team and coaching staff! The Cruisers qualified, and succeeded, as a club and we should all be proud of their success!



**Back Row:** James Hughes, Ryan Bennett, Americo Morais, Graham Borsk, Bret Wills, Ass't Coach Chris Richard, Kyle Pettey, Coach Ken Hall, Michael Careri, Adam Cosburn, Davie Ali. **Front Row:** Cameron Jenkins, Gord Bollert, Karl Ludwig, Shayne Smith

# Fundraising: Golf Tournament, Prom Night, Artists!!!

Many sponsors and volunteers help Cruisers raise funds

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament

Our annual tournament held on September 14<sup>th</sup> at Banty's Roost was once again a great success. Over 72 golfers attended and helped raise over \$14,000! Once again the day was highlighted by great weather, lots of fun and some mediocre golf. The course was in great shape this year. Organizing this tournament is a huge undertaking and the Cruisers would like to thank **Ken Hall** for putting in so much time in gathering prizes, hole sponsorships, and golfers. We would like to thank the following for contributing prizes: **Hooters Restaurants, Hilton Garden Inn, Christie Korsten, Shoppers Drug Mart, Sleeman Breweries, Chandler Industrial Supplies, TD Canada Trust, Rolf Logistics, Integris Metals, London Life Group Retirement, Home Depot, CN Rail, Wal Mart Store #310, Jakes Boathouse, Canadian Tire Brampton, Baker, Labatt Breweries, Bison Transport, Johnston Equipment, East Penn Deca Batteries, Allen Candies, Warner Music and Circuit City.** We would also like to thank the following for sponsoring a hole:

**West Van Inc., Besner Transport TFI2 SEC, Sunbury Transport Ltd, Murray Adam, Johnston Equipment, TransX Ltd, CSI Logistics, General Mills, Pivotal Integrated H.R. Solutions, TD Canada Trust, Kris Hansen, Group Retirement Services and EnerSys Canada Inc.** Mark your calendars for September 13, 2006 as we are already planning for a bigger and better tournament!

## Prom Night at the Galaxy

On Friday November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005 a group of eight women brought the community of Oakville together for a fundraising party at the 707 Galaxy. They worked together to raise money for three 'girlfriends' living with cancer and to support the

Cruisers. The theme was Prom Night, complete with limousines, prom dresses and tuxedos. Walking through the doors you were greeted by hosts and had the opportunity to buy your date a corsage donated by **Jansen's Greenhouses.**

With the overwhelming support of Oakville's merchants and the community at large, the silent auction portion of the evening was a great success. An amazing buffet table was set up with support from Oakville's restaurants, **Montfort, Niblick, Souvlaki Hut, Pizza Pizza, The Montestery, McDonalds,** as well as **Sobeys.** The band **Reckless Abandon and D.J. Paul from Sound Check** played awesome music, which had the dance floor hopping all night. The night raised over \$6,000 for the Cruisers! Thanks to **Sandy Smeenk** who helped organize the event!



Organizing committee: (l to r) Janice Rodriguez, Wendy McClelland, Elizabeth Tharby, Donna Urbanek, Linda Dim, Fran Kotulak, **Sandy Smeenk**, Joanne Copeland

## Oakville Artists Home Gallery Tour

On Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005 a diverse group of artists opened their doors to celebrate the arts and help raise money for the Cruisers. Oils, acrylics, watercolours, photography, ceramics, glassware and jewelry were on display. The artists donated 10% of their sales to our club! This was the 4<sup>th</sup> year the tour was presented and we are honoured they chose the Cruisers as their

charitable organization. Thank you to the following artists who donated close to \$1000 to our club: **Roberta Carbone, Lori Cranson, Elizabeth Elkin, Michele Farris, Carol Gray, Gail Mowat, Phyliss Myers, Victoria Pearce, June Pham, Dominique Prevost, Vani Rouse, Catherine Van Damme-Lorroway and Rainer Wenzl.** A big thank you to **Sandy Smeenk** for facilitating this group!

## Sledge-a-thon & Silent Auction

November 26<sup>th</sup> 2005, marked our Annual Sledge-a-thon and Silent Auction. We had a very good day with a total of \$6,000 raised. The success of this fundraising effort goes directly to our members who collected money for the sledge-a-thon and provided items for our silent auction. We had a number of Cruisers who raised a great amount of money for the club. Congratulations to **Michael Careri** who was our top fundraiser! Michael raised a total of \$848.00! and was the winner of a \$100 Best Buy Gift certificate.

We would like to thank all of our donors and members who helped solicit items for the Silent Auction. Special thanks to **Steven Khan** for the Leaf tickets, **Peter Hughes** for the Raptor tickets, and **Bryan and Lloyd Mason** for many items.

## Cruisers Calendars

The Cruisers calendar, produced by **Sandy and Thomas Smeenk** helped raise over \$700 for our club. The calendar highlighted birthdays and gave us some great pictures of athletes and supporters alike. Some calendars are still available!

## Future Fundraising

In June we would like to hold a garage sale with the proceeds going to the Cruisers. Please hold on to those things you were thinking of donating. Stay tuned for a date and location.

## DID YOU KNOW...

- **James Hughes and Roseanne McGavock** are getting married this July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The first Cruisers to be married!



- **Brock Richardson** earned a spot on Team Ontario for Boccia. Brock will be traveling as part of Team Ontario to the Boccia Nationals in British Columbia, as well as Defi Sportif in Montreal, and the BC Disability Games.



- **Chelsea Clark** was nominated for 'Best Games Debut' in the first ever International Paralympic Awards.
- **Cruisers Sports for the Physically Disabled** won the Dr. Robert Jackson Award in 2005. The award presented by the Ontario Wheelchair Sports Associations (OWSA) honours a 'prime mover in enhancing the quality of life of the disabled community.'
- OWSA also presented the following awards to Cruisers:  
JUNIOR MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR – **Michael Khan**.  
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR – **Peter Wakelin**



## Athlete Profile

### Renee Foessel

Renee Foessel is ten years old, in grade 5 and has been playing hockey with the Cruisers for the past three years. Renee does not limit her interest in sports just to the ice; she is in her second year of participating in the field events of shot put, discus and javelin. Outside of the Cruisers Sports, she has been playing wheelchair basketball for the Blazers Wheelchair sports group for the past 3 years. In her spare time when she is not keeping up with her school work, she enjoys playing outside and writing stories on the computer and of course listening to Shania Twain.

Renee was asked what she liked best about her coaches and the list was endless...." They explain stuff", "likes how silly they are", "likes the expressions", and "telling you what to do to learn". Renee was asked why she like sports and her response was "having fun, improving, like to visit different places, playing against other teams, getting to know people, and doing different sports."

Renee has a list of accomplishments she is shy to share. Renee has won the Garrett Dallas Spirit Award for the 2004 season at wheelchair basketball. In 2004 she received the game puck for her very first goal and in 2005 Renee received her first gold medal in shot put at the provincial games in Essex. Congratulations Renee! We would like to wish Renee continued success in all of her sporting events!!



*A note from your:*

## Athlete's Representative

### Nawid Razvi

Hi everyone. This is just a short note to introduce myself to you all. Most of you know me but for those of you who do not, I am Nawid (pronounced Naveed) Razvi. I am your Athletes' Representative. That means I am your voice on the Board of Directors. My goal for my term on the Board is simple, to make sure that all of the athletes on the Cruisers are heard and know that any questions or concerns they have are being addressed.

Now, just to give you all a little bit of history about me. I have been with the Cruisers for three years. Before that I was with the Markham Islanders for ten years. Sports (especially hockey) is my passion and I like to have fun when I am playing. On that note, I am sure there are a lot of you who also feel the same way – that is, you want to have fun when you come out. Let me know what it is you would like to see to make your experience the best that it can be and I will do my best to help you achieve what you are looking for.

I am honoured to be your representative on the Board of Directors and look forward to building a strong relationship with you all. Should you have any questions or concerns, just drop me a line at [nawid14@hotmail.com](mailto:nawid14@hotmail.com). Thank you and talk to you all later.

# Junior Cruisers on a Roll Heading into London

Heading into London for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual tournament the Cruisers Junior Hockey team has a 4-2-1 record. They opened the season November 6<sup>th</sup> with a 7-1 win in St. Catharines against the Thunderblades. Two weeks later the team traveled north to play the Elmvale Bears and avenged three losses from last year to win 6-2. Another game the Cruisers were looking for revenge was against Hamilton. Last year the Sledgehammers dominated with a 6-0 win. On December 3<sup>rd</sup> the team went into Hamilton and won 5-1.

On New Years Day the Juniors were invited to play Buffalo at the HSBC Centre. They played a long 1½ hour game on an NHL size rink and fell to the Sabres 4-2. The day will be an unforgettable one as the team stayed at the arena for lunch and had a chance to meet Rob Ray who played for the NHL Sabres from 1900-2000. The team then took in the Florida Panthers / Buffalo Sabres game. The Sabres Public Relations showed part of the sledge hockey game on the big screen during a break in the game and thanked the Cruisers for coming!

On January 8<sup>th</sup> the Cruisers took a second trip up to Elmvale and duplicated their 6-2 score from November. On January 14<sup>th</sup> the team played their first game at home against Hamilton tying them

3-3. The Kitchener Sidewinders came to town on January 21<sup>st</sup> and delivered a whooping on the team 8-1.

The team plays Whitby, Elmvale and Pittsburgh in the round-robin of the tournament

The team scoring is led by **Josh Giles (9), Anthony Gale (8), Peter Wakelin (6), Michael Khan (4), Austin Smeenk (2) and Anthony Protomanni (1).**

Player of the game has been awarded to **Peter Wakelin, Anthony Protomanni (2), Kennedy Chisamore-Johnston, Isaiah Christophe (2), and Austin Smeenk.**

## European Paralympic Championships

Helsinki, Finland  
August 2005

### Cruiser Results

**Curtis Thom, T53/54**  
Silver, 4 x 400m

**Chelsea Clark, T34**  
4<sup>th</sup>, 200m  
6<sup>th</sup>, 800m

**Kyle Pettey, F35/36/38**  
4<sup>th</sup>, Discus  
10<sup>th</sup>, Shotput

### Correction

In our last issue we reported Isaiah Christophe placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the 400m at the Canada Summer Games in Regina, Saskatchewan. Isaiah actually won a Bronze medal. Congratulations!

## JR. HALTON-PEEL CRUISERS

